

Naudain House  
East side of Route 896, just south  
of St. Anne's Episcopal Church,  
one mile south of town  
Middletown Vicinity, Appoquinimink Hundred  
New Castle County  
Delaware

HABS No. DEL-148

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PHOTOGRAPHS  
WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA

Historic American Buildings Survey  
National Park Service  
Eastern Office, Division of Design and Construction  
143 South Third Street  
Philadelphia 6, Pennsylvania

## NAUDAIN HOUSE

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Location: East side of Route 896, just south of St. Anne's Episcopal Church, one mile south of town, Middletown Vicinity, Appoquinimink Hundred, New Castle County, Delaware

Brief Statement of Significance: This plantation house has various details characteristic of the first half of the eighteenth century. The stucco is an alteration typical of c. 1820, and the hipped roof is an unusual feature in this part of Delaware.

HISTORICAL AND ARCHITECTURAL INFORMATION

But a short distance to the south of Old St. Anne's Church, on the east side of Route 896, an eighteenth-century brick house stands back from the road, approached by what was once an avenue of stately trees.

It is a five-bay, two-story-and-attic house, with a lower two-story wing at the south end, on axis with the main block. The main body of the structure, one room deep, has a hipped roof, an unusual feature in this part of Delaware.

This plantation house presumably was built before 1750, if we may judge from certain Queen Anne-Early Georgian characteristics visible on the exterior. The straight, small-paned transoms over the central house door and the door of the wing; the flattened segmental arches above the ground-floor windows; the vigorous belt course between the lower and upper floors; the plain box cornice; and the dimensions of the window openings all point to an early date.

The excellent Flemish-bond brickwork of the walls is hidden under a coat of stucco applied in the early nineteenth century. The stucco was ruled with lines to simulate ashlar stone masonry. Most of this ruling with lines has disappeared with the lapse of years, but some of it is still quite visible at the corner of the wing. This "ashlarising" of stucco was much in fashion about 1820.

The interior originally had good Georgian paneling and other woodwork. Some of it remains, but much of it was replaced by the less virile type of woodwork in fashion at the time the exterior walls were coated with stucco.

Prepared by Harold Donaldson Eberlein  
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania  
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